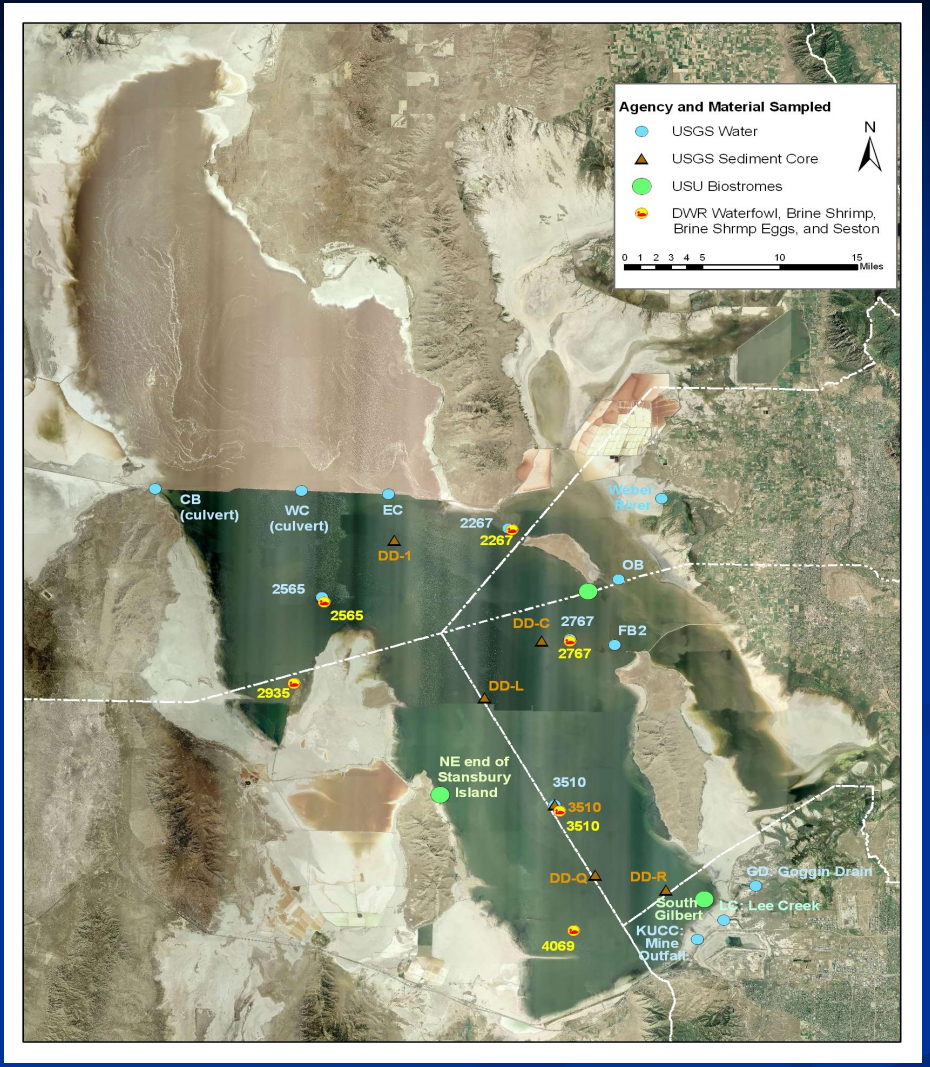
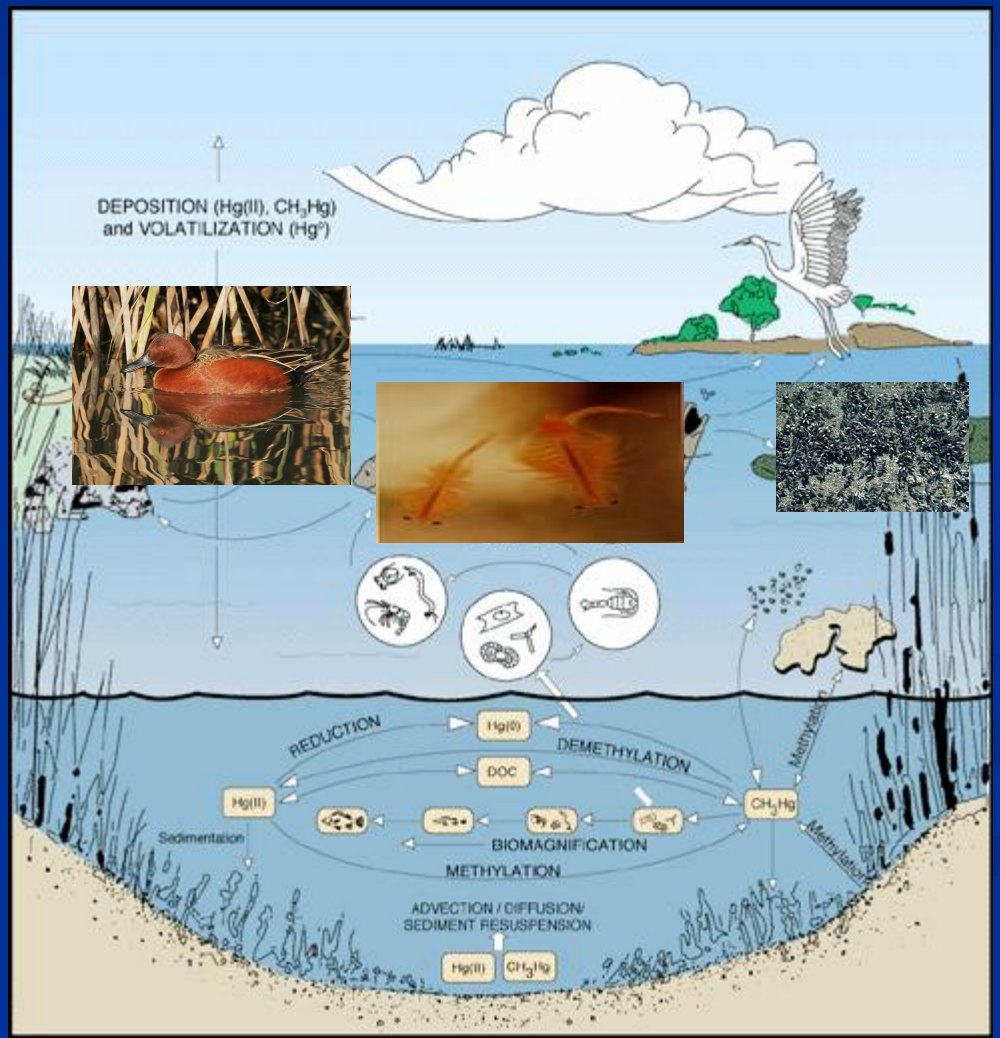
Mercury (Hg) in the Great Salt Lake (GSL) Ecosystem



Jodi Gardberg
Utah DEQ, Division of Water Quality

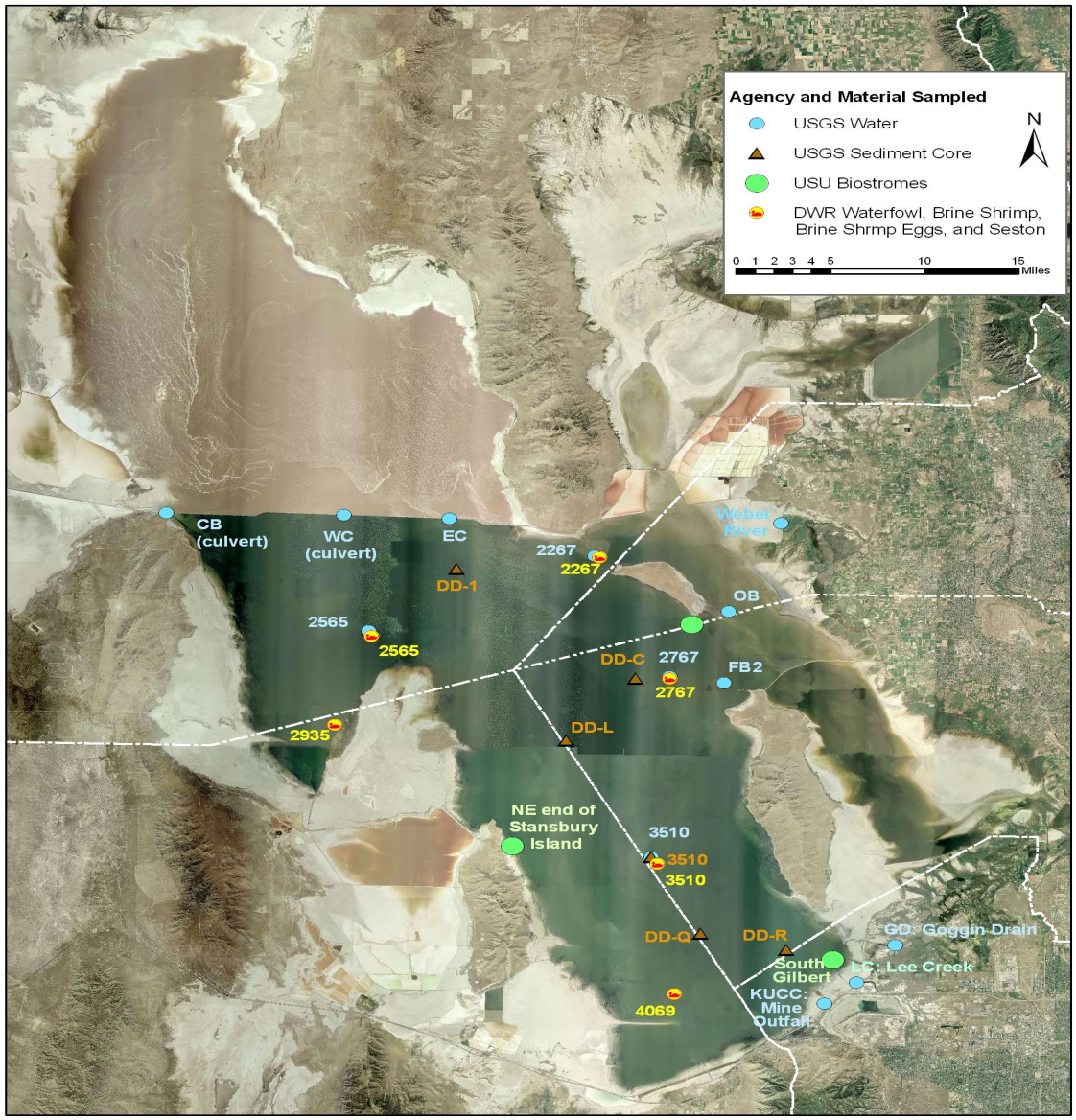
Assessment of Hg in the GSL Ecosystem
2007 Work plan

Assess Hg concentrations in the inflow, sediment, water column, avian tissues and food-chain biota



Mercury in the Water Column and Sediment

- Hg in the inflow and water column
  - Dave Naftz, US Geological Survey
- Hg in the sediment
  - Dave Naftz, US Geological Survey

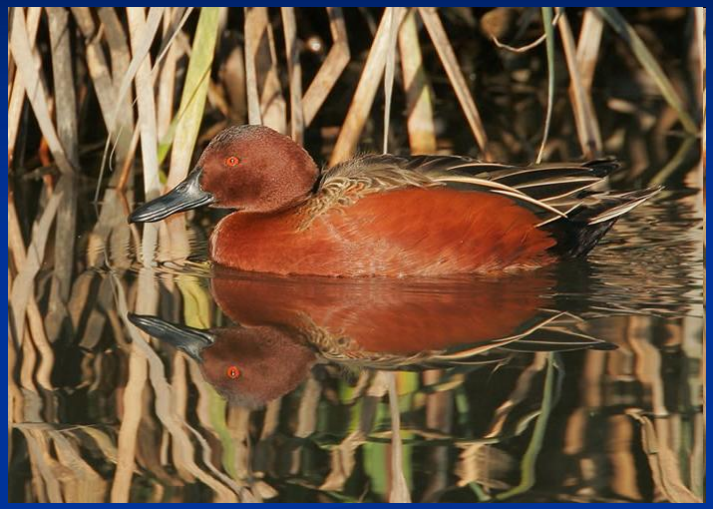


Mercury in the Avian Diet

- Hg in Brine Shrimp and Brine Shrimp Cysts
  - Jaimi Butler, Great Salt Lake Ecosystems Project, Division of Wildlife Resources
- Hg in Brine Fly Larvae and Pupae
  - Wayne Wurtsbaugh, Utah State University
- Hg in the Seston
  - Wayne Wurtsbaugh, Utah State University

Mercury in the Avian Species

- Hg in Cinnamon Teal
  - John Neil, Great Salt Lake Ecosystems Project, Division of Wildlife Resources
  - Chris Cline, US Fish and Wildlife Service
- Hg in Northern Shovelers
  - John Neil, Great Salt Lake Ecosystems Project, Division of Wildlife Resources



Mercury in the GSL Wetlands and Farmington Bay

- Hg in Plants and Macroinvertebrates
  - Theron Miller, Division of Water Quality
- Hg in the Water Column and Sediments
  - Dave Naftz, US Geological Survey

Funding

$66,000 from DEQ Restricted Account – One time FY2007 appropriation

$87,000 from EPA RGI grant

$53,000 from EPA WPDG grant

$70,000 additional monies from EPA

$283,000 Total to Date

Are avian species at risk from Mercury exposure associated with the Great Salt Lake?